



THE OWATONNA POLICE
DEPARTMENT
EST. 1909

The Owatonna Police Department is dedicated to providing a safe and secure community through partnerships, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Policing excellence through our People, our Work, and our Relationships

Just the Facts

December 3, 2021

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Patrol Sergeant Promotion Announcement—

We are proud to announce a promotion within the department! Detective Benjamin Johnson will be promoted to the rank of sergeant effective Sunday, December 5th, nine years to the date that Ben started with the department. During his tenure with the OPD, Ben has been a patrol officer, field training officer, crime scene technician and firearm instructor. Ben was assigned to investigations in January of 2019 and has remained in that capacity since. Ben was selected by the Moonlighter's Exchange Club as the Owatonna Police Department Officer of the Year in 2018. Ben will be filling the vacancy in the sergeant ranks when Josh Sorensen was promoted to Captain. Please help us in congratulating Ben on his well-earned promotion!



Parking Lot Disturbance—

Late on November 26th, patrol officers were called to the Best Budget Inn for a disturbance—the reporting person indicated there was



Jason Carroll

a male outside going crazy and breaking glass on a vehicle. Arriving officers found the glass broken out to a motel room and a fire extinguisher box laying in shambles. They found a male bleeding from his hand near a vehicle parked on the sidewalk up against the building. In the same vehicle, they found the ignition interlock device removed. The male was subsequently arrested for property damage and removing the interlock system to which he replied, *I know I should get more than that.* Jason Carroll, age 38 of Carver, MN, has been charged with 1st Degree Criminal Damage to Property and Tampering with an Interlock System.

Domestic Violence Arrest—

On November 29th, patrol officers were called to a domestic at 250 21st St. NW—the reporting person could hear people fighting and things getting thrown around. Officers arrived on scene and located both



Christopher Powers

a male and female. The female victim had a bleeding upper lip, dried blood and skin missing inside her lip; she also complained that her head hurt. The officers learned a dispute took place over relationship issues. The two argued and the male allegedly pushed the victim into a closet door, causing it to come off its tracks. The male also allegedly headbutted the victim causing the injury to her lip. Officers observed the closet door off its tracks. Christopher Powers, age 25 of Owatonna, was arrested. He has been charged with two counts of Domestic Assault—both felonies. Court records show Powers has three previous domestic related convictions.

Cops in the Community—

Captain Josh Sorensen and Officers Joel Hunt, Derrik Quinlan and Jeremy Katz spent the evening before Thanksgiving at Hy-Vee ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in the annual Battle of the Badge. The Battle of the Badge pits local law enforcement against the fire department to see who can raise the most money for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.

Our Team

Administration

Police Chief Keith Hiller
Captain Eric Rethemeier
Captain Jeff Mundale
Captain Josh Sorensen

Sergeants

Jason Petterson
Andy DeVinny
Andy Drenth
Tracy DuChene
Jason Matejcek
Zack Schumaker

Detectives

Christian Berg
Ben Johnson
Steven Bowman
Valerie Satre
Travis Ardolf
Derrik Quinlan

Patrol Officers

Joel Hunt
Brady Vaith
Matt Oeltjenbruns
Andrew Van Osdale
Melissa Michael
Alan Callahan
Alexandra Vogel
Casey Martin
Luke Selvik
Travis Johnson
Benjamin Metcalf
Joshua Lee
Anna Martin
Zachary Plein
John Van Alstine
Jeremy Katz
Michael Brein
Anthony Malepsy
Kyle Martin
Matthew Lounsbury

Community Service Officers

Brian Shaw
Gabrielle Flemming
Julia Hansen

Canine

Vegas

Support Staff

Kimberly Dub
Pam Roberts
Wendy Gasner

Chaplains

Brent Carlson
Loren Olson

Reserve Officers

Michael Leyva
Steve Wrede
Gabrielle Flemming
Maddie Ziegler
Dietrich Piepho

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